

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-08 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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SUBJECT: GOC NAMES MILITARY "RECTOR-DELEGATES" FOR UNIVERSITIES

1. MINISTER OF EDUCATION REAR ADMIRAL HUGO CASTRO JIMENEZ ANNOUNCED ON RADIO-TELEVISION BROADCAST OCT 2 JUNTA DECREE NAMING "RECTOR-DELEGATES" FOR SIX OF EIGHT CHILEAN UNIVERSITIES. DECREE SAID APPOINTEES WOULD TAKE OVER POSITIONS "WITH AMPLE POWERS" WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS TO MEET "URGENT NEED TO PROCEED WITH PROFOUND RESTRUCTURING OF CHILEAN HIGHER EDUCATION."
2. DURING SPEECH INTRODUCING DECREE, CASTRO SAID, "GOVERNMENT JUNTA NOTED THAT IT IS INDISPENSABLE THAT RECTOR-DELEGATES OF ITS OWN CONFIDENCE BE DESIGNATED, SINCE NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION CANNOT AFFORD LUXURY OF PERMITTING THAT UNIVERSITY LIFE BE FRUSTRATED BY POLITICKING, BUREAUCRACY AND DISORDER."
3. "RECTOR-DELEGATES" -- ALL FORCES OFFICERS ACTIVE OR RETIRED -- WERE NAMED TO UCHILE (SANTIAGO BRANCHES), CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF CHILE (SANTIAGO), STATE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF VALPARAISO, FEDERICO SANTA MARIA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (VALPARAISO), AND UCONCEPCION. NO "RECTOR-DELEGATES" WERE NAMED FOR AUSTRAL UNIVERSITY (VALDIVIA) OR UNIVERSITY OF THE NORTH (ARICA-ANTOFAGASTA), ALTHOUGH

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MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES HAD BEEN PLACED ON CAMPUS BY

PROVINCIAL MILITARY COMMANDERS BEFORE JUNTA ISSUED THIS DECREE.

4. AIR FORCE GENERAL (RET) CESAR RUIZ DANYAU, AS "RECTOR-DELEGATE" OF UCHILE SANTIAGO BRANCHES, WAS ALSO NAMED PRESIDENT (CHAIRMAN) OF COUNCIL OF RECTOR-DELEGATES (FORMERLY KNOWN AS COUNCIL OF RECTORS) OF ALL CHILEAN UNIVERSITIES. BOTH POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY HELD BY EDGARDO BOENINGER.

5. DECREE GRANTED NEW DESIGNEES "MOST AMPLE ATTRIBUTIONS TO RESTRUCTURE UNIVERSITIES, DESIGNATE UNIPERSONAL AUTHORITIES AND FORM COUNCILS, MANAGE ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGET AFFAIRS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FORMULATE POLICIES TO COMPLY WITH OBLIGATIONS EMANATING FROM PRESENT DECREE."

6. DECREE GOES ON TO SAY THAT "FOR ITS RELATIONS WITH THIS JUNTA, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF RECTOR-DELEGATES, OR THESE INDIVIDUALLY, WILL UTILIZE CHANNEL OF MINISTRY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION." UNIVERSITIES HAD PREVIOUSLY NOT COME UNDER MINEDUC JURISDICTION.

7. DECREE CALLS FOR THOROUGH RESTUDY OF UNIVERSITIES' HUMAN AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES, PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, RESEARCH, AND ALL AGREEMENTS OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WITH NATIONAL (CHILEAN) AND FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES AND ENTITIES. IT ALSO CALLS FOR "IMMEDIATE REPORT ON ALL GRANTS OR SCHOLARSHIPS, COMMISSIONS OR STUDIES OF UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL IN THE COUNTRY OR ABROAD CARRIED OUT OR RECOMMENDED DURING PAST THREE YEARS, INDICATING SOURCE OF RESOURCES, RESULTS, ETC."

8. IN SEPARATE MOVE, JUNTA SAME DAY REVOKED MINEDUC "DECREE FOR DEMOCRATIZATION OF TEACHING" OF MARCH 6, 1973, WHICH CREATED COUNCILS OF EDUCATION AS FIRST STEP IN UNIDAD POPULAR PLAN FOR "NATIONAL UNIFIED SCHOOL" (ENU), WHICH WAS ONE OF MOST CONTROVERSIAL POINTS OF PRE-OVERTHROWN MONTHS IN CHILE AND WHICH UP WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW.

9. FULBRIGHT COMMISSION MET OCT 2 TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT CHILEAN EVENTS ON ITS PROGRAM AND RESOLVED TO CLOSELY FOLLOW FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS THAT MAY CLARIFY UNIVERSITIES' SITUATION. COMMISSION AGREED THAT MEANWHILE IT COULD NOT ACT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON BRINGING PROFESSORS OR SCHOLARS TO CHILEAN UNIVERSITIES UNTIL SITUATION BECOMES CLEARER BUT WILL CONTINUE ITS REGULAR PROGRAMS FOR CHILEAN GRADUATE STUDENTS TO BE PLACED IN U.S. UNIVERSITIES AND FOR NORMAL PROCESSING OF TRAVEL GRANT REQUESTS FROM SCCHOLARS TRAVELLING TO U.S.

10. AT SAME MEETING, CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO VICE RECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS JAIME BELLALTA TOLD FELLOW COMMISSION

MEMBER THAT HE WAS SUBMITTING HIS RESIGNATION TO "HIGH CHANCELLOR" OF UNIVERSITY (CARDINAL-ARCHBISHOP OF SANTIAGO) BUT SAW NO CONFLICT IN HIS RETURNING TO HIS REGULAR POSITION AS PROFESSOR OF URBANISM IN FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE. BELLALTA SAID HE ASSUMED HIS NOMINATION TO COMMISSION WAS BASED IN GOOD PART ON FACT THAT HE WAS VICE RECTOR AND THEREFORE HE PERCEIVED THAT HE SHOULD SUBMIT HIS RESIGNATION FROM COMMISSION TO AMERICAN AMBASSADOR. CHAIRMAN ASSURED BELLALTA THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT AMBASSADOR HAD ASKED HIM TO SERVE ON BASIS CONTRIBUTION HE COULD MAKE TO COMMISSION'S WORK AND THAT BELLALTA STILL A FULL-FLEDGED MEMBER AS LONG AS NO RESIGNATION FILED. THIS APPEARED TO ASSUAGE BELLALTA'S DOUBTS ABOUT HIS CONTINUING AS COMMISSCON MEMBER FOR TIME BEING, BUT HE APPEARED TO BE HOLDING HIS POSSIBLE RESIGNATION IN ABEYANCE DEPENDING ON HOW UNIVERSITY EVENTS DEVELOP AND HOW THEY AFFECT HIS POSITION AND INFLUENCE AT UNIVERSITY.

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